

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☒

Property Name: Key Wallace Drive Inventory Number: D-743  
Address: 2526 Key Wallace Drive Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Cambridge Zip Code: 21613 County: Dorchester  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Blackwater River  
Property Owner: Margaret Hughes Tax Account ID Number: 002010  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 1 Tax Map Number: 71  
Project: Proposed Tower Site: Bucktown, Dorchester County, Maryland Agency: Maryland Dept. of Budget and Management  
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company  
Preparer's Name: Stacey Streett and Stephanie Foell Date Prepared: 6/24/2005  
Documentation is presented in: Proposed Tower Site: Bucktown, Dorchester County, Maryland  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes  
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

**Architectural Description:**

The residence at 2526 Key Wallace Drive (D-743) is a prominent, two-story building, formed by a series of two, two-story additions to the rear elevation. It is located on the north side of the road and faces south. The building was constructed in 1930 and has since been heavily altered. It is a vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival style, popular from 1880 to 1955 (McAlester 1985:321); the building borrows both the Colonial Revival and American Foursquare forms, but lacks typical decorative components of the Colonial Revival style. The residence is two bays wide. The original portion of the building is two rooms deep. A raised brick foundation supports the building. A screened, full-width, one-story porch dominates the façade. A hipped roof tops the porch. Lattice panels between the three, square, porch supports encircle the lower portion of the screened porch. The main entrance is reached by steps leading up to the center of the front porch, which contains a storm door. A side entrance is also located on the east elevation of the first recessed addition. It is reached by steps which lead up to a narrow, shed-roof portico.

Narrow, vinyl siding clads the building. Replacement windows have been installed throughout the building. Paired, one-over-one, double-hung sash windows are located on the symmetrical façade. Fenestration on the side elevations consists of single, one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. Shutters flank the windows.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒  
Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Andrew Lunn  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

7/11/05  
Date

Elmnty  
Reviewer, National Register Program

7/11/05  
Date

200501970

A hipped roof tops the original portion of the building and a gabled roof extends over both of the rear additions. A hipped-roof dormer projects from the center of the façade on the roof. It is lit by a paired, six-over-one window. Asphalt shingles cover the roofs of the porches and the dwelling. An interior, brick chimney punctuates the center of the ridge. Brick corbelling adorns the top of the chimney stack.

The landscape surrounding the residence appears intact. Expansive agricultural fields border along the edges of the lawn. A portion of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge is in close proximity to the south of the property. The Little Blackwater River is located north and south of the property. The lawn is planted in mature, deciduous trees, ornamental shrubs, and flowers. A large, deciduous tree shades the front lawn and the façade of the residence. A long driveway runs parallel to the east side of the residence. It is bordered by a row of ornamental shrubs. A three-bay-wide, gable-front, frame garage is located at the terminus of the driveway. Attic lights pierce the gables of the garage. It contains one-over-one, double-hung sash windows flanked by shutters. Asphalt shingles cover the roof. A television antenna mounted on a pole that is the same height as the house is located north of the residence.

#### Significance

#### General Project Area Description

Bucktown, Maryland, is located in Dorchester County, approximately ten miles south of Cambridge. Bucktown is primarily an agricultural area that is adjacent to the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. The terrain is relatively flat with the large majority of land used for agricultural purposes. The project area directly abuts the Little Blackwater River on the west, and much of the terrain is marshland in this area. The project area has a low level of elevation, approximately 5 feet above sea level.

Primary crops grown in Bucktown include corn and soybeans. Large industrial poultry houses of recent dates of construction are also present on several farms. Portions of the project area adjacent to the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge have a substantial tree canopy flanking the roadways.

#### History of Bucktown

Bucktown was formed from the land holdings of Bartholomew Ennalls. A native of York County, Virginia, Ennalls owned thousands of acres of land in southern Maryland in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Virtually no scholarly information exists on the establishment or development of Bucktown. It is largely ignored in scholarly histories of Dorchester County, and few primary or secondary resources relating to the town are available. A detailed review of maps of Dorchester County indicates that the name Bucktown first appears on maps in the late eighteenth century.

It is described as "five miles from a railroad station. A fertile farming country surrounds it. . . . about forty people in ten or twelve dwellings measure the size of the quiet town where the ring of the hammer on the blacksmith's anvil is no more heard. No town growth."

Tobacco was the primary crop cultivated in the area. It was exported to England for sale, and provided a certain degree of wealth to many of the tobacco plantation owners. After the onset of the Revolutionary War, when trade with England was suspended, corn, wheat, and rye plantings replaced tobacco as the most prominent agricultural crops. Livestock were also raised in larger numbers. The crops and animals were used for both home consumption and to supply the army. These crops remained the primary products planted until after the Civil War. After that time, grain crops became less common.

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

#### MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Bucktown is perhaps best known for its association with Harriet Tubman, a slave who was a critical figure in the Underground Railroad. Because Tubman was born into slavery, very little precise information about her early life is available. Consequently, much misinformation about Tubman has been disseminated throughout time. Reliable sources indicate that she was born circa 1820, possibly in or near Bucktown.

She spent her earliest years at the Brodess plantation, which was located just outside of Bucktown. Later, she moved with her owner to other locations within a ten-mile radius of Bucktown. Local tradition states that Tubman may have received a severe head wound that afflicted her for the rest of her life at the Bucktown Store in the 1830s. However, the present Bucktown store was not constructed until circa 1870, according to Dorchester County tax records, so the extant store could not have been the site of the encounter. Her family worshipped at Bazel's Chapel. The original building associated with Tubman's family burned and the present chapel was constructed circa 1911.

Tubman gained her freedom in 1849, when she escaped to Philadelphia. She eventually settled in Auburn, New York, where she established a home for elderly former slaves. Three buildings in Auburn with associations to Tubman have been designated National Historic Landmarks by the Secretary of the Interior. These include her own residence, the Harriet Tubman House, and the Harriet Tubman Home for the Aged. The church where she worshiped in Auburn, Thompson AME Zion Church is also designated.

#### Historic Resources in Bucktown

Relatively few built resources are present within the Bucktown vicinity. This is due to the prevalence of large swaths of agricultural land in cultivation. The majority of buildings in Bucktown are residences. Almost all of the buildings more than 50 years of age are farmhouses from the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Most of the residences retain their basic forms, which include I-houses and smaller cottages. Many of the residences have side or rear additions. Most have been re-sided in either aluminum siding or asbestos shingles. Replacement windows and enclosed porches are other common alterations. The conditions of the residences range from excellent to poor, with several near collapse.

Few historic agricultural buildings associated with the farmhouses remain (although several of the properties were inaccessible and only farmhouses were visible from the right-of-way). New agricultural buildings consist primarily of large-scale poultry houses sheathed in metal.

An abundance of houses dating from the late 1950s through the present are found in Bucktown. Most are modest, single-story houses with minimal architectural detail. These newer houses are located on small plots of land in linear patterns, unlike the houses of earlier eras, which were located on large plots of farmland.

Several modest frame chapels are located in the vicinity of Bucktown. They are associated with African-American congregations in the area.

The Bucktown Store is the sole resource associated with commerce in the area. As with other general stores in small towns, it likely served the town with basic supplies. However, Bucktown's proximity to Cambridge allowed for a reasonable commute into the larger city for commercial goods.

The historic and cultural landscape within Bucktown conveys the historic agricultural use of the land. Although historic crops in Dorchester County included tobacco and grains and not the currently omnipresent soybeans, the land has remained cleared and used for agricultural purposes. Other components of the landscape are used as part of the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge and appear to be

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

in their pristine natural condition. Substantial sections of the region, most notably in the area surrounding the wildlife refuge, are covered with thick stands of tall trees.

#### Determination of Eligibility

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or

C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

The residence at 2526 Key Wallace Drive is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Research did not indicate that the property is associated with any events that are important in the past. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A. It is not associated with any significant people important in the history of Bucktown or the nation's past and is not eligible under Criterion B. The building is a typical vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival and American Foursquare building forms, both of which are common throughout Maryland. The property does not retain a high degree of integrity. Additions, replacement siding, and replacement windows all contribute to the overall loss of integrity of design, materials, feeling, and workmanship the residence. It is not eligible under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

#### Bibliography

Maryland Historical Trust. Maryland Inventory of Historic Property Forms and National Register of Historic Places Forms for Bucktown and surrounding areas of southern Maryland.

Weeks, Christopher, ed. Between the Nanticoke and the Choptank: An Architectural History of Dorchester County, Maryland. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press and the Maryland Historical Trust, 1984.

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ \_\_\_B\_\_\_ \_\_\_C\_\_\_ \_\_\_D\_\_\_ Considerations: \_\_\_A\_\_\_ \_\_\_B\_\_\_ \_\_\_C\_\_\_ \_\_\_D\_\_\_ \_\_\_E\_\_\_ \_\_\_F\_\_\_ \_\_\_G\_\_\_

MHT Comments:

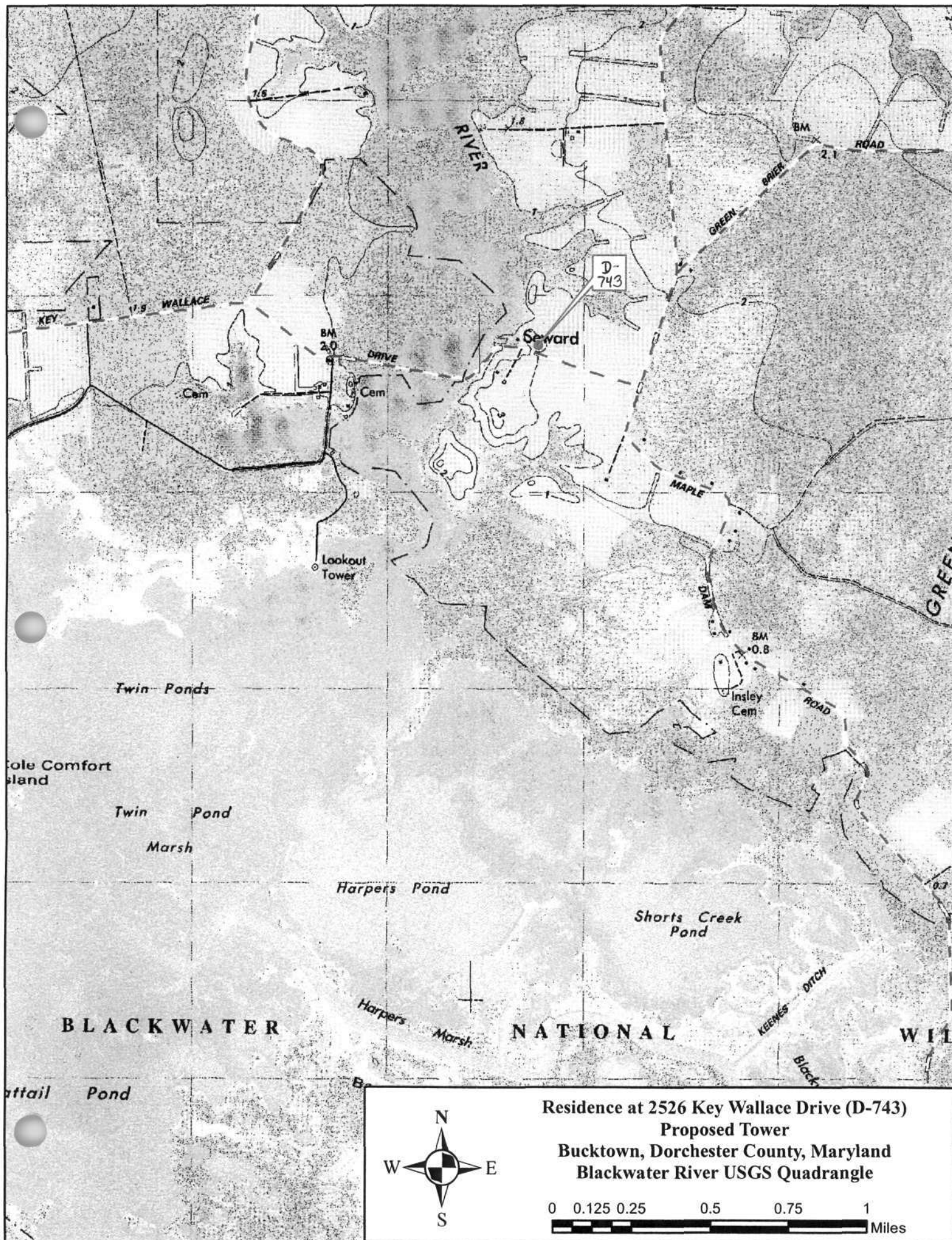
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date







D-743  
Key Wallace Drive House  
Dorchester County, MD

S. Street #

4/2005

MD SHPO

Facade

1/3

ART-2611 <No. 31 >029  
763 7817 -1 N N N 04 <042>0





D-743

Key Wallace Drive House  
Dorchester County, MD

S. Street

4/2005

MD SHPO

Southeast elevation and garage

2/3

ART-2614 <NO. 24 >855  
763 7812 1 N 10 055



D-743  
Key Wallace Drive House  
Dorchester County, MD  
S. Streett

4/2005

MD SHPO

Southwest elevation and garage

3/3

ART-2611 <No. 32 >025  
263 2812 - 1 N N-1-07 <042>0

Kodak Professional  
PAPER  
DO NOT COPY  
PAPER